

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 098749
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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 STR-04
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R 021838Z MAY 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
INFO AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BDIS, TU

SUBJECT:TRADEMARK INFRINGEMENT - BLUE BELL INC WRANGLER
BLUE JEANS

1. HERMAN TROP, DIRECTOR SECURITY BLUE BELL INC, GREENS-BORO, NORTH CAROLINA, TELEPHONED DEPARTMENT MAY 2 TO REQUEST ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE IN RESOLVING TRADE MARK INFRINGEMENT PROBLEM IN TURKEY.

2. TROP SAID THAT CERTAIN TURKISH FIRMS, AS YET UNKNOWN, WERE MAKING COUNTERFEIT BLUE JEANS UNDER THE "WRANGLER" LABEL AND EXPORTING THEM TO GERMANY BY VARIOUS ROUTES. AT LEAST ONE ERSATZ SHIPMENT HAS BEEN SEIZED IN GERMANY, BUT BLUE BELL ATTEMPTS TO TRACE SOURCE OF PRODUCTION IN TURKEY HAVE TO DATE BEEN FRUITLESS. TURKISH ATTORNEY RETAINED BY FIRM IN ISTANBUL HAS NOT MADE ANY PROGRESS ON CASE.

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3. TROP NOTED THAT SINCE TURKEY BANS IMPORT OF BLUE JEANS, SOME GENUINE WRANGLER JEANS ARE SMUGGLED IN APPARENTLY THROUGH GERMANY. NO TURKISH FIRM IS LICENSED BY BLUE BELL TO PRODUCE WRANGLERS; US FIRM HAS INDICATIONS THAT AS MANY AS FOUR TURKISH MANUFACTURERS MAY BE INVOLVED IN PRODUCING COUNTERFEITS.

4. TROP SAID HE AND HIS FIRM ARE PREPARED TO COOPERATE FULLY WITH TURKISH AUTHORITIES IN EFFORT TO RESOLVE TRADE MARK VIOLATION AND UNAUTHORIZED IMPORTATION OF GENUINE ARTICLE.

5. TROP PLANS TO TRAVEL TO FRANKFURT LATER THIS WEEK AND THEN PROCEED TO ISTANBUL IN LATTER PART OF WEEK MAY 9-13. HE WILL CONTACT CONGEN ISTANBUL ON ARRIVAL IN TURKEY.

VANCE

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 02-May-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
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